

Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

North West (Outer) Area Committee

Date: 25th February 2008

Subject: Key Messages from Area Committee Sub Groups and Forums

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>Adel & Wharfedale Guiseley & Rawdon Horsforth Otley & Yeadon</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Council Function <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the Area Committee sub groups and ward forums that have taken place since the last Area Committee meeting.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Area Committee has an ad-hoc policy group, and three sub groups looking at service provision within the delegated functions of Community Safety, Children & Young People and Streetscene.
- 1.2 There are currently two ward forums in the outer area in Guiseley & Rawdon ward and a new Yeadon forum in Otley & Yeadon ward. The forums meet on a regular basis approximately three or four times a year.

2.0 Community Safety Sub Group

- 2.1 There has not been a meeting of the Community Safety sub group since the last Area Committee. The next meeting is due to take place in February and it will be held jointly with the Children and Young People's sub group at the request of members.

3.0 Streetscene Sub Group

- 3.1 There has been no Streetscene sub group since November 2007. The next meeting is due to take place on 25th February 2008.

4.0 Children and Young People's Sub Group

- 4.1 There has not been a meeting of the Children and Young People's sub group since the last Area Committee. The next meeting will take place jointly with the Community Safety sub group in February.

5.0 Guiseley & Rawdon Forum

- 5.1 There has been one meeting of the forum since the last Area Committee on the 9th January 2008. It was attended by the Guiseley and Rawdon members, officers from area management and members of the public. The following key messages were agreed:

- Members felt that a formal Area Action Plan was not appropriate for the needs of Guiseley. Instead a 'plan of actions' to improve Guiseley will be devised.
- A 'pedestrian paper' developed by members of the Forum was circulated. It considered a range of issues that act as barriers to pedestrian travel, such as obstructions on pavements and unsatisfactory crossings and routes.
- An approach to the design of housing estates called 'shared space' was cited as problematic, particularly for visually impaired residents. 'Shared space' refers to the layout of the communal areas of a housing estate, where cars may park and pedestrians access the estate and its buildings. A notable feature of 'shared space' is the absence of pedestrian paths and the option for cars to park almost anywhere. This was considered detrimental to the safety of pedestrians.
- The forum supported the pedestrian paper in its aims of improving health and local livability by addressing the barriers in pedestrian travel which currently exist in some parts of Guiseley.
- A paper has been produced by Aireborough Civic Society entitled 'submission to Metro of suggestions to improve bus services in the Yeadon and Guiseley area'. The paper included suggestions to restore routes in the area and to pay particular attention to public transport links to the airport and railway station. The paper also suggested increased marketing of bus services and cheaper fares for short journeys.

6.0 Yeadon Forum

- 6.1 The first meeting of the newly formed Yeadon Forum was held on the 10th December 2007. It was attended by the ward members and an officer from Area Management. The forum agreed the terms of reference and elected Councillor Campbell as Chair of the forum. A programme of issues was then discussed with members which will

be followed up at future meetings with the appropriate agencies. Relevant Council Officers from Highways Services and Streetscene Services as well as a representative from Leeds Bradford Airport will be invited to the next meeting. The next meeting is to take place on Tuesday 4th March 2008 at Yeadon Town Hall.

7.0 Tenancy Enforcement Meeting

7.1 A tenancy enforcement meeting was held on the 11th December 2007 to discuss issues around problem tenants and the allocation of new tenancies in the area. Ward Members attended the meeting along with officers from Area Management, West Yorkshire Police and West North West Homes. A key message from the meeting was that all of the ALMOs should have a consistent approach across the city to lettings and enforcement policies. Other issues discussed included;

- WNWH are currently reviewing their tenancy agreements to make them clearer and more conditional
- Estate Management Officers are to take a more proactive role in visiting T tenants
- Estate Management Officers will be contacting Members to arrange estate visits
- WNWH are to publicise what actions have been taken or can be taken against tenants in breach of their tenancy agreements. This will become a standard item in the WNWH quarterly newsletter.

8.0 Recommendations

8.1 The Area Committee is asked to note the contents of this report: